

**U.S. District Court
District of Columbia (Washington, DC)
CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 1:14-cv-01760-TSC**

LEOPOLD v. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Assigned to: Judge Tanya S. Chutkan
Cause: 05:552 Freedom of Information Act

Date Filed: 10/21/2014
Jury Demand: None
Nature of Suit: 895 Freedom of
Information Act
Jurisdiction: U.S. Government Defendant

Plaintiff

JASON LEOPOLD

represented by **Jeffrey Louis Light**
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V.

Defendant

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

represented by **Michael Leon Drezner**
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TERMINATED: 12/04/2014

Robin Frances Thurston
DEMOCRACY FORWARD
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Date Filed	#	Docket Text
10/21/2014	<u>1</u>	COMPLAINT against DEPARTMENT OF STATE (Filing fee \$ 400 receipt number 0090-3878680) filed by JASON LEOPOLD. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Civil Cover Sheet, # <u>2</u> Summons AG, # <u>3</u> Summons USAO, # <u>4</u> Summons State)(Light, Jeffrey) (Entered: 10/21/2014)
10/21/2014		Case Assigned to Judge Tanya S. Chutkan. (kb) (Entered: 10/21/2014)
10/21/2014	<u>2</u>	SUMMONS (2) Issued Electronically as to U.S. Attorney and U.S. Attorney General. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Consent Form, # <u>2</u> Notice of Consent)(kb) (Entered: 10/21/2014)
10/21/2014	<u>3</u>	REQUEST FOR SUMMONS TO ISSUE <i>State Department</i> by JASON LEOPOLD filed by JASON LEOPOLD.(Light, Jeffrey) (Entered: 10/21/2014)
10/22/2014	<u>4</u>	SUMMONS (1) Issued Electronically as to DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Consent Forms)(rdj) (Entered: 10/22/2014)
11/03/2014	<u>5</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed as to the United States Attorney. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney on 10/29/2014. Answer due for ALL FEDERAL DEFENDANTS by 11/28/2014. (Light, Jeffrey) (Main Document 5 replaced on 11/4/2014) (td,). (Entered: 11/03/2014)
11/03/2014	<u>6</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed on United States Attorney General. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney General 10/29/2014. (Light, Jeffrey) (Entered: 11/03/2014)
11/05/2014	<u>7</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by John G. Interrante on behalf of DEPARTMENT OF STATE (Interrante, John) (Entered: 11/05/2014)
11/12/2014	<u>8</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. DEPARTMENT OF STATE served on 11/3/2014 (Light, Jeffrey) (Entered: 11/12/2014)
11/25/2014	<u>9</u>	Consent MOTION for Extension of Time to File Answer re <u>1</u> Complaint by DEPARTMENT OF STATE (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Interrante, John) (Entered: 11/25/2014)
11/26/2014		MINUTE ORDER: Granting <u>9</u> Motion for Extension of Time to Answer Defendant shall answer or otherwise respond to the complaint not later than December 12, 2014. Signed by Judge Tanya S. Chutkan on 11/26/14. (DJS) (Entered: 11/26/2014)
11/26/2014		Set/Reset Deadlines: Answer due by 12/12/2014. (sm) (Entered: 11/26/2014)
11/28/2014	<u>10</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Robin Frances Thurston on behalf of All Defendants (Thurston, Robin) (Entered: 11/28/2014)
12/04/2014	<u>11</u>	NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL OF APPEARANCE as to DEPARTMENT OF STATE. Attorney John G. Interrante terminated. (Interrante, John) (Entered: 12/04/2014)
12/11/2014	<u>12</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Ryan Steven James on behalf of JASON LEOPOLD (James, Ryan) (Entered: 12/11/2014)
12/12/2014	<u>13</u>	ANSWER to Complaint by DEPARTMENT OF STATE.(Thurston, Robin) (Entered: 12/12/2014)
12/14/2014		MINUTE ORDER: Before the Court in this FOIA case are a complaint and an answer. The requirements of LCvR 16.3 and Rule 26(f) of the Federal Rules of Civil procedure appear to be inapplicable. IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the parties shall meet and confer and propose a schedule for proceeding in this matter. The schedule should address the status of Plaintiff's FOIA request, the anticipated number of documents responsive to Plaintiff's FOIA request, the anticipated date(s) for release of the documents requested by Plaintiff, whether a motion for an Open America stay is likely

		in this case, whether a Vaughn index will be required in this case, whether and when either party anticipates filing a dispositive motion, and any other pertinent issues. The parties shall file a joint status report that addresses these issues and that contains a proposed schedule and order not later than December 29, 2014. Signed by Judge Tanya S. Chutkan on 12/14/14. (DJS) (Entered: 12/14/2014)
12/15/2014		Set/Reset Deadlines: Status Report due by 12/29/2014. (sm) (Entered: 12/15/2014)
12/29/2014	<u>14</u>	STATUS REPORT <i>Jointly filed</i> by DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Thurston, Robin) (Entered: 12/29/2014)
01/13/2015		MINUTE ORDER; Upon consideration of the parties Joint Status Report <u>14</u> , it is hereby ORDERED that the following schedule is adopted for the above-captioned matter: Defendant shall make its first production of documents to Plaintiff by February 27, 2015, and shall produce documents on a rolling basis thereafter. Defendant shall make these productions every four weeks. The productions will be based on a review of at least 700 pages of potentially responsive records per month by Defendant. THE PARTIES SHALL FILE A JOINT STATUS REPORT NOT LATER THAN April 1, 2015 and every 60 days thereafter during production of the documents. Within 14 days after the final production of documents, the parties shall meet and confer, and shall file a status report identifying whether any further issues remain in the case. The status report shall include a proposed schedule and a proposed order. Signed by Judge Tanya S. Chutkan on 1/13/15. (DJS) (Entered: 01/13/2015)
01/13/2015		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 4/1/2015. (sm) (Entered: 01/13/2015)
04/01/2015	<u>15</u>	STATUS REPORT <i>JOINT</i> by DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Thurston, Robin) (Entered: 04/01/2015)
06/01/2015	<u>16</u>	STATUS REPORT <i>JOINT</i> by DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Thurston, Robin) (Entered: 06/01/2015)
07/31/2015	<u>17</u>	STATUS REPORT <i>JOINT</i> by DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Thurston, Robin) (Entered: 07/31/2015)
08/03/2015		MINUTE ORDER: Having considered the Status Report filed by the parties <u>17</u> , a Status Conference is hereby set for 8/18/15 at 10:15 a.m. in Courtroom 2. Counsel from the Department of State (DOS) or another DOS employee with personal knowledge of the agency's search and production efforts shall personally appear at the status conference. Signed by Judge Tanya S. Chutkan on 8/3/15. (DJS) (Entered: 08/03/2015)
08/03/2015		Set/Reset Hearings: Status Conference set for 8/18/2015 at 10:15 AM in Courtroom 2 before Judge Tanya S. Chutkan. (zsm) (Entered: 08/03/2015)
08/04/2015	<u>18</u>	Consent MOTION for Order <i>Permitting Plaintiff's Counsel to Appear Telephonically at Status Conference</i> by JASON LEOPOLD (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order Proposed Order)(James, Ryan) (Entered: 08/04/2015)
08/04/2015		MINUTE ORDER granting <u>18</u> Motion for leave to appear telephonically. Ryan James may appear at the August 18, 2015 status conference by telephone. All other persons required to attend the conference shall do so in person. Signed by Judge Tanya S. Chutkan on 8/4/15. (lctsc3) (Entered: 08/04/2015)
08/07/2015	<u>19</u>	Consent MOTION for Extension of Time to <i>for Status Conference</i> by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Thurston, Robin) (Entered: 08/07/2015)
08/08/2015		MINUTE ORDER: Granting <u>19</u> Consent Motion to Continue. The status conference previously set for 8/18/15 is hereby rescheduled for 8/25/15 at 10:00 a.m. in Courtroom 2. Signed by Judge Tanya S. Chutkan on 8/8/15. (DJS) (Entered: 08/08/2015)
08/10/2015		Set/Reset Hearings: Status Conference set for 8/25/2015 at 10:00 AM in Courtroom 2 before Judge Tanya S. Chutkan. (zsm) (Entered: 08/10/2015)
08/25/2015		Minute Entry for proceedings held before Judge Tanya S. Chutkan: Status Conference held on 8/25/2015. Parties advised the Court of the status of this matter. (Court Reporter Bryan Wayne.) (zsm) (Entered: 08/25/2015)

09/03/2015	<u>20</u>	NOTICE by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Exhibit)(Thurston, Robin) (Entered: 09/03/2015)
09/04/2015	<u>21</u>	NOTICE of Court Order by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Exhibit)(Thurston, Robin) (Entered: 09/04/2015)
09/29/2015	<u>22</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Thurston, Robin) (Entered: 09/29/2015)
11/30/2015	<u>23</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Thurston, Robin) (Entered: 11/30/2015)
01/29/2016	<u>24</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Thurston, Robin) (Entered: 01/29/2016)
02/24/2016	<u>25</u>	Consent MOTION for Extension of Time to <i>Make Production of Documents</i> by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Thurston, Robin) (Entered: 02/24/2016)
02/26/2016		MINUTE ORDER: Granting <u>25</u> Consent Motion for Extension of Time to Produce Documents. The deadline for Defendant's upcoming production of documents is hereby extended from February 29, 2016 to March 4, 2016. All other deadlines in the case shall remain the same. Signed by Judge Tanya S. Chutkan on 2/26/16. (DJS) (Entered: 02/26/2016)
03/29/2016	<u>26</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Thurston, Robin) (Entered: 03/29/2016)
06/10/2016	<u>27</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Thurston, Robin) (Entered: 06/10/2016)
07/22/2016	<u>28</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Michael Leon Drezner on behalf of U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE (Drezner, Michael) (Entered: 07/22/2016)
08/09/2016	<u>29</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by JASON LEOPOLD. (James, Ryan) (Entered: 08/09/2016)
10/11/2016	<u>30</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by JASON LEOPOLD. (James, Ryan) (Entered: 10/11/2016)
12/12/2016	<u>31</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Drezner, Michael) (Entered: 12/12/2016)
02/09/2017	<u>32</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Drezner, Michael) (Entered: 02/09/2017)
04/11/2017	<u>33</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Drezner, Michael) (Entered: 04/11/2017)
06/12/2017	<u>34</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Drezner, Michael) (Entered: 06/12/2017)
08/11/2017	<u>35</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Drezner, Michael) (Entered: 08/11/2017)
10/10/2017	<u>36</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Drezner, Michael) (Entered: 10/10/2017)
12/11/2017	<u>37</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Drezner, Michael) (Entered: 12/11/2017)
02/09/2018	<u>38</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by JASON LEOPOLD. (James, Ryan) (Entered: 02/09/2018)
04/10/2018	<u>39</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Drezner, Michael) (Entered: 04/10/2018)
06/11/2018	<u>40</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Drezner, Michael) (Entered: 06/11/2018)
08/09/2018	<u>41</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Drezner, Michael) (Entered: 08/09/2018)

10/03/2018	<u>42</u>	NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL OF APPEARANCE as to U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. Attorney Robin Frances Thurston terminated. (Drezner, Michael) (Entered: 10/03/2018)
10/03/2018	<u>43</u>	NOTICE of Change of Address by Michael Leon Drezner (Drezner, Michael) (Entered: 10/03/2018)
10/09/2018	<u>44</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Drezner, Michael) (Entered: 10/09/2018)
12/10/2018	<u>45</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Drezner, Michael) (Entered: 12/10/2018)
12/26/2018	<u>46</u>	Consent MOTION to Stay by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE (Drezner, Michael) (Entered: 12/26/2018)
12/26/2018		MINUTE ORDER: Granting <u>46</u> Motion to Stay. All deadlines are hereby STAYED. Defendant's counsel shall notify the Court as soon as Congress has appropriated funds for the Justice Department, and it is further ordered, that all current deadlines for the parties shall be extended commensurate with the duration of the lapse in appropriations. Signed by Judge Tanya S. Chutkan on 12/26/18. (DJS) (Entered: 12/26/2018)
01/28/2019	<u>47</u>	NOTICE by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE (Drezner, Michael) (Entered: 01/28/2019)
03/04/2019		MINUTE ORDER LIFTING STAY: Effective 1/25/19. See ECF No. <u>47</u> . Signed by Judge Tanya S. Chutkan on 3/4/19. (DJS) (Entered: 03/04/2019)
03/15/2019	<u>48</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Drezner, Michael) (Entered: 03/15/2019)
05/14/2019	<u>49</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Drezner, Michael) (Entered: 05/14/2019)
07/15/2019	<u>50</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Drezner, Michael) (Entered: 07/15/2019)
09/13/2019	<u>51</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Drezner, Michael) (Entered: 09/13/2019)
11/12/2019	<u>52</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Drezner, Michael) (Entered: 11/12/2019)
01/13/2020	<u>53</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Drezner, Michael) (Entered: 01/13/2020)
03/13/2020	<u>54</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Drezner, Michael) (Entered: 03/13/2020)
04/07/2020	<u>55</u>	Unopposed MOTION to Stay <i>Production Schedule</i> by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Exhibit A– Declaration of Eric Stein, # <u>2</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Drezner, Michael) (Entered: 04/07/2020)
04/07/2020		MINUTE ORDER: Granting Defendant's unopposed motion <u>55</u> to stay production deadlines. The parties shall file a joint status report by May 8, 2020, and continuing every thirty (30) days thereafter, advising the Court whether the REAs have been cleared to resume work and access the system used to process records in this case. To the extent the report contains a proposed schedule for moving forward with this case, the status report shall be accompanied by a proposed order. Signed by Judge Tanya S. Chutkan on 4/7/2020. (DJS) (Entered: 04/07/2020)
04/07/2020		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 5/8/2020. (tb) (Entered: 04/07/2020)
05/08/2020	<u>56</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Drezner, Michael) (Entered: 05/08/2020)
06/05/2020	<u>57</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Drezner, Michael) (Entered: 06/05/2020)

07/06/2020	<u>58</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Declaration)(Drezner, Michael) (Entered: 07/06/2020)
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